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LETTER DATED 15 JANUARY 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CROATIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I should like to inform you that the Government of the Republic of Croatia has decided to keep the border crossing points Debeli Brijeg and Konfin on the international border between the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the area of Prevlaka, which were opened for All Saints and the 1998-1999 Christmas holiday season, open permanently.

The Republic of Croatia firmly believes that keeping the border crossing points Debeli Brijeg and Konfin open permanently is beneficial not only for the local population on both sides of the border, but that it will also have a positive effect on confidence-building and regional stability. Croatia's earlier decision to open these border crossing points and the ensuing civilian cross-border traffic, in both directions, during the period of All Saints and the 1998-1999 Christmas holiday season lends credence to this belief.

The Republic of Croatia further believes that keeping these border crossing points open permanently will contribute to facilitating and accelerating bilateral negotiations on the issue of Prevlaka

I should like to request your assistance in circulating the present letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ivan ŠIMONOVIĆ
Permanent Representative

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